

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-28 (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) A method for a mobile data device to determine a network to acquire based on a plurality of system preference criteria provided in a preferred roaming list on said mobile data device, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. waiting until a new network needs to be acquired;
- b. choosing the network to acquire at said mobile data device based on said plurality of system preference criteria stored on said mobile device, ~~said choosing step overriding network preferences in said preferred roaming list~~; and
- c. starting a search for the new network;

wherein the mobile data device gives preference to various ones of the plurality of system preference criteria to create the ranking of available networks.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said plurality of system preference criteria includes at least geographic information and data capability information.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the plurality of system preference criteria further includes information about whether

each of the available networks support data roaming for the mobile data device.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the plurality of system preference criteria further includes whether each of the available networks supports mobile IP.
33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the plurality of system preference criteria further includes whether each of the available networks supports an always-on device.
34. (canceled)
35. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the mobile data device further stores a list of service features the mobile data device supports and said plurality of system preference criteria further includes a list of services the network supports.
36. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said choosing step can find no networks are available.
37. (currently amended) A mobile data device for acquiring one of a plurality of networks based on a plurality of system preference criteria provided in a preferred roaming list on said mobile data device, characterized by means for:

- a. waiting until a new network needs to be acquired;
- b. choosing the network to acquire at said mobile data device based on said plurality of system preference criteria stored on said mobile device, ~~said choosing step overriding network preferences in said preferred roaming list~~; and
- c. starting a search for the new network;

wherein the mobile data device gives preference to various ones of the plurality of criteria to create the ranking of available networks.

- 38. (previously presented) The mobile device of claim 37, wherein said plurality of system preference criteria includes at least geographic information and data capability information.
- 39. (previously presented) The mobile data device of claim 38, wherein the plurality of system preference criteria further includes information about whether each of the available networks support data roaming for the mobile data device.
- 40. (previously presented) The mobile data device of claim 38, wherein the plurality of system preference criteria further includes whether each of the available networks supports mobile IP.
- 41. (previously presented) The mobile data device of claim 38, wherein the plurality of system preference criteria further includes whether each of the available networks supports an always-on device.

42. (canceled)

43. (previously presented) The mobile data device of claim 38, wherein the mobile data device further includes means for storing a list of service features the mobile data device supports and said plurality of system preference criteria further includes a list of services the network supports.

44. (previously presented) The mobile data device of claim 38, wherein the mobile data device includes means for storing said plurality of system preference criteria in a table with said available networks.